

AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

1           1.       (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:  
2                   receiving a call request from a first media gateway controller to a second  
3 media gateway controller over a network;  
4                   requesting information from the first media gateway controller; and  
5                   receiving the information before establishing a bearer path over the  
6 network.

1           2.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving the call request over a packet-based network.

1           3.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving the call request over an Asynchronous Transfer Mode  
3 network.

1           4.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving an a BICC IAM message.

1           5.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving the call request over an Internet Protocol network.

1           6.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving an IAM message encapsulated in a ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation  
3 Protocol message.

1           7.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein requesting the  
2 information comprises requesting the information in a ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation Protocol  
3 message.

1           8.     (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein requesting the  
2 information comprises providing a digit map within the ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation Protocol  
3 message.

1           9.     (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the information  
2 comprises requesting digits to establish a call session.

1           10.    (Original) The method of claim 1, further including terminating the call in  
2 response to receiving the information.


1           11.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the information  
2 comprises requesting the information in response to determining that additional digits are  
3 desired to terminate the call.

1           12.    (Original) An apparatus, comprising:  
2                   a first interface coupled to a packet-based network; and  
3                   a controller communicatively coupled to the first interface, the controller  
4                   to:  
5                   receive a call request from a media gateway controller over the  
6 packet-based network;  
7                   determine if at least one digit is required to establish a call session;  
8 and  
9                   receive the at least one digit from the media gateway controller  
10 over the packet-based network from the media gateway controller in response to  
11 determining that the at least one digit is required.

1           13.    (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the packet-based network  
2 comprises one of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode network and an Internet Protocol  
3 network.

1           14.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the controller is  
2 adapted to receive the call request in one of a BICC IAM and ~~SIP-T IAM~~ Session  
3 Initiation Protocol message.

1           15.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the controller is further  
2 adapted to request the at least one digit from the media gateway controller over the  
3 packet-based network.

 1           16.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the controller is  
2 adapted to receive the at least one digit in at least one of a ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation  
3 Protocol message and a BICC message.

1           17.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the controller is  
2 adapted to request a digit map within the ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation Protocol message.

1           18.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the controller is further  
2 adapted to complete the call session in response to receiving the at least one digit.

1           19.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the controller is further  
2 adapted to receiving information during the call session.

1           20.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:  
2               a first interface ~~coupled to couple~~ to a first network;  
3               a second interface ~~coupled to couple~~ to a packet-based network; and  
4               a controller communicatively coupled to the first and second ~~interface~~  
5 interfaces, the controller to:  
6               receive a call request over the first network from a party terminal;  
7               transmit the call request over the packet-based network to a media  
8 gateway controller;

9                    prior to a call session being established in response to the call  
10 request, receive a request to collect digits from the media gateway controller over the  
11 packet-based network;  
12                    collect digits from the party terminal; and  
13                    transmit the collected digits to the media gateway controller.

1            21.    (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the first network is a  
2    Signaling System #7 network.

1            22.    (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the controller is adapted to  
2    receive the call request in an IAM message.

1            23.    (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the packet-based network  
2    comprises one of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode network and an Internet Protocol  
3    network.

1            24.    (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller is adapted to  
2    collect the digits from a media gateway over the packet-based network.

1            25.    (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the controller is  
2    adapted to collect the digits from the media gateway according to ~~over~~ at least one of a  
3    Megaco protocol, a media gateway controller protocol, a simple gateway controller  
4    protocol, and an Internet protocol device control.

1            26.    (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller is  
2    adapted to transmit the digits within a ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation Protocol message.

1            27.    (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller is  
2    adapted to receive the request to collect the digits from the media gateway within a ~~SIP-T~~  
3    Session Initiation Protocol message.

1           28.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller is further  
2 adapted to receive a request to collect digits after establishing a call session.

1           29.   (Original) An article comprising at least one machine-readable storage  
2 medium containing instructions that when executed cause a processor to:  
3               receive a request to establish a call session over a packet-based network  
4 from a media gateway controller;  
5               request information from the media gateway controller; and  
6               receive the information from the media gateway controller before  
7 establishing a voice path over the packet-based network.

1           30.   (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed  
2 cause the processor to receive the request over one of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode  
3 network and an Internet Protocol network.

1           31.   (Currently Amended) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions  
2 when executed cause the processor to receive the request in one of a BICC IAM and ~~SIP-~~  
3 ~~T-IAM~~ Session Initiation Protocol message.

1           32.   (Currently Amended) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions  
2 when executed cause the processor to request the information in a ~~SIP-T~~ Session  
3 Initiation Protocol message.

1           33.   (Currently Amended) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions  
2 when executed cause the processor to receive the information in a ~~SIP-T~~ Session  
3 Initiation Protocol message.

1           34.   (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed  
2 cause the processor to establish the voice path over the packet-based network.

1           35.     (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed  
2 cause the processor to receive the information indicating that the request may not be  
3 completed.

1           36.     (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed  
2 caused the processor to receive a request for information after establishing the voice path  
3 over the packet-based network.

1           37.     (Currently Amended) A data signal embodied in a carrier wave  
2 comprising instructions that when executed cause a processor to:  
3                 receive a call request from a media gateway controller over a packet-based  
4 network; and  
5                 receive at least one digit in one of a BICC and a SIP-T Session Initiation  
6 Protocol message from the media gateway controller before establishing a voice path  
over the packet-based network in response to the call request.

1           38.     (New) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call request  
2 comprises receiving a Session Initiation Protocol Invite message containing an ISUP  
3 initial address message (IAM), wherein requesting and receiving the information occurs  
4 prior to sending a Session Initiation Protocol OK message in response to the Invite  
5 message.

1           39.     (New) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the information  
2 comprises receiving the information in a Session Imitation Protocol Info message.

1           40.     (New) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the controller is adapted to  
2 receive the at least one digit prior to establishing the call session in response to the call  
3 request.

1           41.   (New) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the call request comprises a  
2 Session Initiation Protocol Invite message, and wherein the controller is adapted to  
3 receive the at least one digit in a Session Initiation Protocol Info message.

1           42.   (New) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the controller is adapted to  
2 receive the at least one digit in a Session Initiation Protocol Info message prior to the  
3 controller sending a Session Initiation Protocol OK message in response to the Invite  
4 message.

1           43.   (New) The article of claim 29, wherein the request comprises a Session  
2 Initiation Protocol Invite message, and wherein requesting the information from the  
3 media gateway controller comprises sending a Session Initiation Protocol Info message to  
4 the media gateway controller prior to establishing a call session in response to the Invite  
5 message.

1           44.   (New) The data signal of claim 37, wherein the call request comprises a  
2 Session Initiation Protocol Invite message, and wherein receiving the at least one digit  
3 comprises receiving the at least one digit in a Session Initiation Protocol Info message  
4 prior to establishing a call session in response to the Invite message.

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